Charles Sturt University’s (CSU) Applied Finance articulated set of courses has been designed to meet the needs of the finance industry and financial service professionals. All study materials are provided online, and the courses blend the best in current finance theory with industry practice.

The Graduate Certificate in Finance is a four-subject program that introduces you to the analytical and decision making techniques applied in the finance industry. You will learn about the institutional environment, evaluation of investment, management of financial risk as well as financing and dividend policy.

The Graduate Diploma of Finance provides an opportunity if you have previously studied in another discipline to develop competency in analytical and decision-making techniques in finance. You will develop skills in applying analytical processes and making business decisions.

The Graduate Diploma of Financial Planning will develop your skills and knowledge in financial planning. Depending on the subjects you choose, this course can equip you to meet the training requirements of ASIC RG146 for financial planning.

The Master of Applied Finance (with specialisations) consists of 12 subjects. You will receive full credit for all subjects completed in the Graduate Certificate or one of the Graduate Diplomas when you enrol in the Masters program. This course extends the knowledge and competencies acquired in the lower level courses, enabling you to further develop your skills and understanding of the finance discipline. You can choose from specialisations in Banking, Estate Planning or Financial Planning.

Some reasons for studying Applied Finance at CSU:

- The course is designed by industry, for industry and taught by lecturers with a variety of industry experience.
- The course is analytical, investigative, research based and uses industry recognised technical skills.
- You can choose from a wide range of electives to cater to your interests and career.
What specialisations are available in the Master of Applied Finance?

Banking specialisation
If you are seeking career advancement within the banking sector, this specialisation provides an overview of financial institutions including corporate finance and risk and liquidity management. To undertake the Banking specialisation, you need to complete the four core subjects of the Masters degree in addition to four elective subjects and four specified Banking subjects.

Estate Planning specialisation
Completion of the set of subjects that form the basis for the Estate Planning specialisation will enable you to be accredited with the Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (STEP), the Australian and international professional association for trust and estate planners. It is anticipated there will be a growth in demand for the specialised discipline of estate planning, given Australia’s ageing population.

To undertake the Estate Planning specialisation you will need to complete the four core subjects of the Masters degree, a specified Estate Planning subject plus three Estate Planning electives of your choice and a further four restricted electives.

Financial Planning specialisation
This specialisation prepares you for a career as a financial planner. Financial planners provide advice on investments, insurance, retirement and life planning. Employment opportunities include banks, credit unions and mutual banks, and insurance companies, in addition to financial planning firms. To undertake the Financial Planning specialisation, you will need to complete the four core subjects of the Masters degree in addition to a specified Financial Planning subject, three Financial Planning elective subjects and four restricted electives.

Entry via Graduate Certificate
- receive credit for four subjects.
Complete eight additional subjects:
- ACC585: Financial Statement Analysis and Valuation
- FIN535: Strategic and Contemporary Financial Issues
- Plus six electives

Entry via Graduate Diploma
- receive credit for eight subjects.
Complete four additional subjects:
- ACC585: Financial Statement Analysis and Valuation
- FIN530: Financial Markets and Instruments
- FIN535: Strategic and Contemporary Financial Issues
- Plus three electives

Entry via Master of Applied Finance (with specialisations)
- receive credit for four subjects.
Complete eight additional subjects:
- ACC585: Financial Statement Analysis and Valuation
- FIN535: Strategic and Contemporary Financial Issues
- Plus three electives

You don’t have a Bachelor degree.
You have a Bachelor degree from an Australian university or overseas equivalent.

You have a Graduate Certificate in Finance.

You have completed the Diploma and Advanced Diploma in Finance or Financial Planning.

You have been working in the finance industry for a number of years.

www.csu.edu.au/finance
Career opportunities
Whether you’re in the finance industry and looking for opportunities to further your knowledge and progress your career, or are looking to transition into the finance industry, CSU has finance courses for you. CSU’s postgraduate finance courses have been designed with careers in banking, financial planning and estate planning in mind.

Completion of appropriate subjects in the relevant degree provides the necessary skill set to be eligible for RG146 compliance, in accordance with the requirements of the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC). Our courses are fully articulated to develop advanced analytical and decision making skills in finance required at senior management levels.

Credit
Credit into the Master of Applied Finance is available for completion of a Diploma and Advanced Diploma in Financial Planning through IIT or a Diploma and Advanced Diploma in Insurance through the Australian and New Zealand Institute of Insurance & Finance (ANZIIF) if you have relevant industry experience.*

As this is an articulated set of courses, subjects completed in the CSU Graduate Certificate will be credited to the Graduate Diploma and/or Masters. Subjects completed in the Graduate Diploma will be credited into the Masters course.

*Note: To be eligible for credit, you must first meet entry requirements into the Masters program.

Professional recognition
The course has been prepared to meet the requirements of industry. In addition, you may apply to the Financial Planning Association (FPA) for advanced standing for units CFP2, CFP3 and CFP4 of the CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER® (CFP®) Certification Program that leads to the CFP® designation.

Completion of the Estate Planning specialisation will enable you to be accredited with the Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (STEP), the Australian and international professional association for trust and estate planners.

Studying online
CSU provides an excellent range of online support tools to engage and promote active thinking and participation; including weekly schedules, study modules that enable you to apply learning to your workplace, assignments that test your mastery and application of course materials, and dynamic resources containing interesting, practical or contentious views. Lecturers are readily available to assist you via web-based communication, direct telephone and email. Online forums, meetings and podcasts may also be utilised to provide you with direct and instant contact with staff and other students. Visit: csuonline.edu.au

For more information or to apply, visit: www.csu.edu.au/finance

1800 DEGREE (1800 334 733) (free call within Australia)
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About CSU
CSU is a national university focusing on excellence in education for the professions, strategic and applied research, and flexible delivery of learning and teaching. We work in close association with industry, professions and government to ensure our courses meet and support industry needs, resulting in high graduate employment levels and starting salaries. We attract more than 38,000 students from Australia and around the world and are well-known for our innovative approach to education, offering practical, hands-on courses, supported online to provide our students with accessible, world class education.